

NO TREATY PROBABLE

Rumors of Negotiations with Japan Promptly Denied.

CHANGE MAY COME LATER

Talk of New Conventions Persists in Spite of Denials from Highest Sources—Senator Perkins Thinks "Peons" Will Be Barred Eventually—Californians Feel Better.

It may be asserted on the highest authority that no steps have been taken toward the negotiation of a new treaty with Japan which shall provide for the exclusion of Japanese laborers from the United States.

The administration has not commenced to negotiate a treaty of this kind, nor has it paved the way to such action. If such a treaty comes at all, it will not come for a long time—certainly not until after the adjournment of the courts in California of the question of whether the local law providing for the segregation of Japanese pupils in the public schools is incompatible with the guarantee of rights to Japanese under the existing treaty.

Japan has decidedly the better of the situation as it exists now, and unless a new treaty can be arranged without giving reason for the impression that that country has in any way receded from the position it has assumed in the school matter, the chances for the negotiation of such a convention are decidedly small.

The administration deprecates the continued agitation of the Japanese question. It believes that the whole situation will adjust itself satisfactorily to all concerned, if the public and the newspapers will only permit it to do so.

The situation is analogous to that relating to two boys, each of whom was trying to raise a bed of flowers. One succeeded and the other did not, because he persisted in pulling up his plants every day to see how they were getting on.

The idea of the administration is that if the Japanese question is not dug up so frequently everything will come out right in the end.

Danger of Trouble Past.

A confident feeling exists in official circles that danger of trouble, with the great power of the far East has passed away with the cordial reception given by the government, press, and people of Japan to the annual message of President Roosevelt's annual message on the subject of discrimination against Japanese subjects in the United States.

This feeling on the part of his countrymen was echoed by the Japanese Ambassador, Viscount Aoki, during a personal visit to President Roosevelt Tuesday.

It became known yesterday that Viscount Aoki had voluntarily gone to the White House and thanked the President for his complimentary allusions to Japan and the Japanese, and for his promise that the rights of these Japanese subjects residing in the United States would be thoroughly protected.

That there is nothing acute in the situation is indicated by the departure of Secretary Root from Washington for New York yesterday afternoon. He had a conference with Viscount Aoki during the day. Mr. Root has been active in his efforts to bring the Japanese muddle to an amicable conclusion, and the President is relying upon his advice.

Treaty Rumors Persist.

Rumors of a new treaty continue to persist, in spite of official denials from the White House, the State Department, and the Japanese Embassy. Senator Perkins, of California, intimated that a move in the direction of a new convention had been instituted, after he had had an interview with President Roosevelt yesterday.

"Everything will be all right," said the Senator. "The people of California are a unit on the question, and the President is a great, patriotic American. I predict that negotiations will soon be begun for a new treaty to keep Japanese people out of this country. The Japanese government prefers that its people go to Manchuria and Korea, and we prefer it. So on that important point we are agreed."

Senator Perkins said other interesting things bearing on the situation after his White House visit. He explained that he had not talked with the President about the reference in Mr. Roosevelt's message to the military forces of the government in preserving the treaty rights of Japanese in this country, for the reason that he was satisfied that the President intended only in the event that these Japanese needed protection from physical violence.

Pacific Coast Unanimous.

"The Pacific Coast," he said, "will learn that the Pacific Coast is unanimous in its sentiment, and he will not resist that sentiment. More fuss has been made about it East than West. The truth is that there are not forty Japanese children of school age in the city of San Francisco, and probably not 100 in the whole State."

"Therefore, it seems to me that the small number of children should make no objection to attending schools set aside for them and maintained by taxation of white taxpayers. Here in Washington there are separate schools for white and colored children, and in California we have a law forbidding any minister to marry a Caucasian and a Mongolian. There has never been any rumormongering about that. So why should there be about separation of the school children?"

"I claim that we have not violated the treaty with Japan in letter or spirit. If the courts see fit to uphold the contention that the treaty is violated we will see that a new treaty is made that will not give such rights."

Before doing anything further the administration will await the outcome of the test case to be instituted in the California courts for the purpose of determining whether the exclusion of Japanese from California public schools is a violation of treaty rights. Secretary Root is credited with having made the suggestion that this test case be instituted, and the administration looks upon it as a solution of the present aspects of the difficulty.

Californians Feel Better.

The California Congressmen are in a rather better state of mind than they were when they first read what President Roosevelt had to say about discrimination against Japanese on the Pacific Coast. They have been assured from the White House that the President's reference to his intention to use military force if necessary and lawfully, was meant to apply only to an instance where Japanese protected by treaty rights were threatened with physical violence. It is pointed out that, of course, the President could not use Federal troops even then, unless asked to do so by the governor of the State; so the justification for his reference to the army and navy is still anything but obvious in the minds of many observers.

Swimming Instructor Here.

Prof. Enoch, swimming instructor of Atlantic City, is giving his performances at the Pure Food Show. He will be pleased to meet any of his pupils.

WEST FIRM AGAINST JAPS.

Gov. Chamberlain Says Question Is One for Courts to Settle.

"The West is unalterably opposed to the joint occupancy of public school rooms by Japanese or Chinese and our white children," said Gov. George E. Chamberlain, of Oregon, at the Arlington last night. "We are also against the admission of Chinese or Japanese coolies."

"The present controversy over the Japanese has assumed a phase which calls for the application of more common sense than has been manifested in some quarters. The interpretation of treaties rests solely with the courts, and certainly not with the executive branch of the government through the military, as President Roosevelt threatens."

"It appears to me that the administration is inconsistent in attempting to force the association in public schools of an inferior race with the white children, when here in the District of Columbia there is a system of separate schools for whites and negroes. Let the President and the Congress demonstrate here the theory of such association before trying to force objectionable policies on the people of the Pacific Coast."

SCHOOL QUESTION IN CONGRESS

Delegation of Colored Citizens Memorialize the Senate.

Complaint of the Administration of Colored Schools—Counter Opinion as to Criticism of School Board.

Senator Gallinger presented to the Senate yesterday afternoon, and asked to be printed, a memorial from Rev. S. F. Carothers and sixteen others in regard to the condition of the Washington schools.

Mr. Gallinger was reminded by Vice President Fairbanks that he was out of order in presenting the memorial, but the Senator insisted that it was desired that it be printed as a document, and it was allowed to go in.

As he presented it, Senator Gallinger said that he accepted no responsibility for the paper, and that he introduced it by request of Mr. Carothers and a number of prominent colored citizens residing in the room of the Senate Committee on District Affairs early in the day, and there met Senator Gallinger and asked him to introduce their memorial, which he consented to do.

Admiral Baird, president of the board of education, in speaking of the memorial, said: "These few colored people who made this petition seem to have taken pains to conceal their identity as colored people, and the minority of their number probably had a purpose in doing so."

"The colored schools are about half as numerous as the white schools, and the majority of their teachers are friendly to the board of education, and probably have no sympathy with this movement. The board of education has had probably ten times the number of complaints about colored schools and from colored schools as they have from the white schools. Personally, I am much in favor of educating the colored people. They should, however, remember that they do not pay as large a portion of the taxes that support the schools. Indeed, I think the majority of them recognize and are profoundly grateful for what they receive."

"The few, however, who have been dismissed are the chief complainers in this matter, and really do not deserve any consideration. Every last one of them who was dismissed was objectionable or incompetent, and they were dismissed for the 'good of the service.' They were replaced in every case by colored people, who are quite up to the standard and who have no complaints to make."

"Personally I have visited at least twelve colored schools, and have observed their methods, and it is needless to say they are now satisfactory to me."

"My own conception of the law which created the new school board is that it created a single executive officer whom they might hold responsible. A plural executive can never be satisfactory, the public does not know whom to hold responsible. Congress in its wisdom created the new board of education with advisory and legislative powers, but the executive duty is vested in the superintendent of schools. The board of education, personally, is that the former board was composed of a splendid lot of men and women. If they made any mistakes, those mistakes were on the side of leniency and mercy. They listened to the hopes of the fond parents of children who had been conditioned and in some cases would overrule the superintendent and the teachers, which I think rather discouraged the superintendent and the teacher. That board had executive powers also, and its system, so far as I can see, was admirable."

The new board, however, profiting by experience, has uniformly sustained the superintendent, whose influence, consequently, has been felt throughout the entire school system. The only people who have complained of the present board of education so far have been principally those who have lost their places and are unemployed."

"I haven't the slightest idea that Congress will pay any serious attention to the memorial. The board is of opinion that the appointing power carries with it the power to dismiss. There can be no tenure of office to anybody in the school system under the superintendent, and his tenure is limited to three years."

Capt. James E. Oyster, of the board of education, said: "The contents of the memorial have no surprise; it is only a repetition of what we have heard from the same crowd for the past two months. I haven't seen any of these troubles. We have had complete harmony, and there has been no trouble or dissension and no factionalism."

"Mr. Carothers and his following don't represent the citizens of Washington. We found it necessary in our best wisdom and judgment to make some changes for the good of the service, and all appointments, in my opinion, have been on merit and record, and there has been no favoritism at all."

The memorial is signed by Rev. S. F. Carothers; president; Charles E. Lane, secretary; Rev. E. H. Hunter, treasurer; James L. Neill, Ferdinand D. Leo, Rev. T. J. Brown, W. L. Stewart, James L. Jasper, George S. Mabry, Wilson Wood, G. D. Williams, George W. Jackson, G. W. Richardson.

Sultan Gives In to America.

Paris, Dec. 6.—The Tangier correspondent of the Petit Parisien says that Mr. Gummere, the American Minister, has obtained satisfaction from the Sultan for all injuries inflicted by Moors on American citizens. His domestics will also be indemnified for injuries.

Jersey Politician Dead.

Camden, N. J., Dec. 6.—Joseph Engard, member of the State legislature in 1891 and 1892, died at his residence in Haddonfield, N. J., this morning, after a prolonged illness.

"Apple and Honey."

Old-fashioned remedy for coughs, colds, and bronchial troubles. Only to be had here. Price, 50c bottle.

BRYAN ON MESSAGE

Some Parts Good, Some Bad, Nebraskan Says.

ADOPTS DEMOCRATIC DOCTRINE

President Takes Advanced Ground in Some Instances, Retreats from Ground Already Taken in Others, Anti-Injunction Recommendations Not Satisfactory to Labor.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 6.—In commenting on the President's message, William J. Bryan writes, in part, as follows in this week's issue of the Commoner:

"The President's message contains much for which the public may well thank him. It contains some things that ought to arouse severe criticism. The President boldly appropriates some doctrines which the Democrats have been advocating; he announces some doctrines so absurd as to excite amusement if the suggestions came from a less prominent source. In some cases he retreats from ground already taken."

"He urges a law which will make it a criminal offense for any corporation to contribute to any campaign fund. In this suggestion he is right. But the President does not stop there."

"As to individual contributions, he virtually recedes from the position taken in a former message. He says: 'Let individuals contribute as they desire.' While it is eminently proper that corporations should be forbidden to contribute, it is also important that the contributions made by individuals should be limited."

"The President asks for a law conferring upon the government the right of appeal in criminal cases where disputed questions of law are involved. In this the President is right."

"The President says: 'The government has begun a policy of resorting to the criminal law in trust and interstate commerce cases where such a course offers a reasonable chance of success.'"

"This is a confession that for many years the government did not resort to the criminal law in trust cases."

"What the President says on the subject of government by injunction will not be satisfactory to the laboring men, for instead of recommending that law which will secure the right of trial by jury, he warns judges that 'it will be well-nigh impossible to prevent its abolition of the right of injunction if the process is habitually abused.'"

"The President's position on the child labor question is good, as also on the eight-hour day, although he makes a very questionable explanation as to the eight-hour day when he speaks of the work at Panama. Many will argue that a limitation upon the hours of labor is as important within the tropics as in the temperate zone."

"But in speaking of the labor question he feels called upon to warn the country against 'sinister demagogues and foolish visionaries, purveyors of sensational theories.'"

"The principal merit that the President possesses is that he is contributing a little toward remedial legislation in spite of the fact that he has to work with the very men he denounces."

"The President recommends the withdrawal of the coal lands from sale. This is a gigantic step toward government ownership."

"The President's discussion of the trust question can hardly be satisfactory to those who have carefully studied the subject. He is so anxious not to disturb what he would call good combinations of capital, that he shrinks from the legislation necessary to prevent those admitted to be bad."

States Rights Must Be Protected.

"He directs attention to the Japanese question raised by the discrimination in San Francisco, and asks for legislation that will enable Congress to protect the treaty rights of foreigners. If any bills are presented in response to this suggestion they must be carefully scrutinized to be sure that they do not deny to the various States the right to protect matters of race and their people in matters purely local."

"In recommending a graded income tax he not only approves the Democratic doctrine of an income tax, but he goes further than the Democratic party when he says: 'The law of 1894.'"

"But, while there ought to be general rejection at the President's effort to improve our system of taxation, there will be general disappointment at the wartime issue of his message, where he discusses the army and navy. Shame upon the Chief Executive that he should place an instrument of brute force above the nation's sense of justice as a guarantor of peace!"

In reference to the recommendation for the establishment of shooting galleries, Mr. Bryan says: "What a shocking spectacle this country will present when the youths have no higher ambition than to get ready to kill somebody!"

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETS.

Two Bills Acted On, But No Important Legislation Taken Up.

The House District Committee held its first meeting of the session yesterday. Chairman Babcock was not present, owing to the illness of his wife. The committee took favorable action on a bill authorizing the Washington Market Company, in connection with the refrigeration of produce stored or sold at Center Market, to manufacture ice at any suitable place in the District.

The committee also decided to report favorably a bill incorporating the National Child Labor Committee. The committee named consists of Felix Adler, Francis G. Caffey, Robert W. de Forest, Edgar T. Devine, Hoffman Folger, William E. Harmon, John S. Huyler, Mrs. Florence Kelley, James H. Kirkland, V. Everett Macy, Edgar Gardner Murphy, Isaac N. Seligman, Miss Lillian D. Wald, Paul M. Warburg, and John W. Wood, and they are constituted a body corporate of the District of Columbia.

The object of the organization is to take up the work of protecting children from degrading and impoverishing industrial conditions; prevent premature employment of children, and encourage organization of like committees throughout the country for the same purpose.

Government Ownership Data.

Representative McNary, of Massachusetts, desires official information regarding the operation of government-owned utilities in Europe. Particularly is he anxious to know about workings of the parcels post system in various European countries. Yesterday he offered a resolution calling for all available reports, data, statistics, &c., relating to the government railways, telegraphs, and other utilities of France, Switzerland, and Belgium, and of the parcels post in those countries.

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BAILEY IN LETTER DEFENDS HIS ACTS

CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.

company and paid into accounts as an expenditure of \$3,000, and that employee could have put the same sum of money in his pocket, thus robbing his employers by a false entry to that amount."

"My opinion is that this precise thing was done, if such entry appears in those books, and I believe that the reason H. C. Pierce was never able to find the \$3,000 note among his private papers after I had paid it was because it was passed to the Waters-Pierce Oil Company and the money to the man who ordered the entry made."

A conference of anti-Bailey leaders today tried to induce Judge James Robertson, former law partner of the late Gov. Hogg, to lead the fight against United States Senator Bailey, and as a candidate against him, Judge Robertson declined to do so, and announced, as a member of the legislature, he should support Senator Bailey's re-election. This action of Judge Robertson has greatly elated Senator Bailey's friends.

THIEF STEALS A STREET CAR.

Runs It Four Miles, Collects Fares and Escapes.

East Liverpool, Ohio, Dec. 6.—The police are looking for a stranger who stole a street car late last night, ran it four miles and collected fare from all passengers and then decamped.

Conductor Deltz was at a pump getting a drink, when the thief stepped aboard and gave the starting signal. The fellow managed the business so well that the motorman, cuffed in on account of the rain, knew nothing of what was going on.

BONI TALKS TO EMPTY SEATS

Almost Every Deputy Leaves Chamber When He Arises.

Madame Gould Has Saved \$35,785 from Her Income in Nine Months Since Separation.

Paris, Dec. 6.—Count Boni de Castellane was distinctly snubbed in the Chamber of Deputies to-day when he attempted to interpellate the government on the Moroccan trouble.

As Boni addressed the chair there was a general stir among the Deputies. The greater number of them left their seats and went into the lobbies until he was through speaking, to show their disrespect for him. Boni had to wait several minutes before the room was quiet enough for him to be heard.

His address comprised the usual platitudes used in addressing the chamber.

In the nine months since she parted from her former husband, Madame Gould has practiced such close economy that she has been able to save \$35,785 out of her income. This was the interesting fact brought out to-day in the renewed hearing of the creditors against the couple.

The former countess has persisted in using her old title of Countess Castellane, the allegation of Marquess, a dealer in tapestries, who is suing on a bill of \$37,440, and who admitted this reason for compelling her to pay Boni's debts.

OREGON WANTS HARBOR AID.

Gov. Chamberlain Comes to Help Get Appropriation.

Gov. Chamberlain, of Oregon, has traveled all the way across the continent to plead for larger recognition by the Federal government of the coast and interior waters of the Pacific Slope. Gov. Chamberlain will appear with the Oregon delegation to the Rivers and Harbors convention to-day before the House committee.

"The people of the Pacific Slope," said he, "are heartily in accord with the policy outlined by the convention, now in session here, for the appropriation of \$50,000,000 annually for the improvement of the coast and interior waterways of the country. We hold that it is a sound policy, one which would bring back to the nation results commensurate with the cost of the various enterprises involved in the proposals."

"What I say of Oregon could truthfully be said of all the States of the Pacific Slope, for the same arguments are applicable. The problems offered there are based upon considerations of the nation's future in the Orient. The coast line of the Pacific is 2,000 miles long, and it has only five harbors, and these are inadequate for the commerce of that region and coming from Eastern States for transshipment to the Orient. These harbors are only partially improved, and there should be a general expenditure of Federal money to make them what they would be if they met the needs of the hour."

"Then there is the question of the improvement of the rivers, which is a vital issue with us. Of the total area of Oregon, only one-twentieth is in use. Yet from that area annually \$135,000,000 is taken, and there we pay a 15 per cent freight toll, or \$17,000,000. Development of the world's commerce has taught the lesson, indeed has evolved as an axiom, that waterways are the people's protection from exactions of transportation lines. It is the settled policy of the republic to construct works of general character for the development of the nation's waterways; but there should be a more liberal plan laid, and the people should spend more money than has been spent in the past."

"Our part in the matter involves the handling of the 25,000,000 of standing timber of our State which is shown by the Federal surveys, the development of the irrigation possibilities, the utilization of the hundreds of thousands of horsepower for electric power enterprises, and the conquering of the remaining alienated twenths of the State's area for the uses of civilization."

May Continue Using a City Square.

Representative Jenkins, chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary, introduced a resolution yesterday authorizing the Pennsylvania Railroad to continue to enjoy the use of square 737 in the city of Washington, under such regulations and conditions as the District Commissioners may impose.

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GILLETTE DEFENDED

Mother Says She Is Partly Responsible for Crime.

GOING NOW TO COMFORT HIM

Tells Interviewers She Would Rather Chester Had Confessed and Expiated His Crime with Truthfulness Than Live with Lie on His Lips. Murderer May Get New Trial.

Denver, Col., Dec. 6.—Utterly heartbroken, Mrs. Frank S. Gillette, mother of Chester Gillette, the Herkimer (N. Y.) murderer, will leave to-morrow for that place to offer spiritual consolation and strength to her firstborn.

Mrs. Gillette received the news of her son's reported confession to-day at her humble little cottage in the outskirts of Denver. For a moment she was too dazed to speak, and tears welled in her kindly eyes.

"If Chester is guilty, I am glad he has confessed, even if he must die for it, which I hope he will not," she said. "I hope his confession, if he made one as said, truly came from the heart, so he will be forgiven by God. If he is repentant, God will forgive him for his sins. I have a mother's confidence, though, that he did not kill that poor girl."

To teach Chester Gillette to die worthily, if he die he is the mission of Mrs. Gillette in going to him at Herkimer. She will pray for him in the cell, and follow him to the death chamber in Auburn prison, if the prison officials will allow her to do so.

Mrs. Gillette blames herself for the crime of her son. Now that the veil of mystery and doubt has been raised, she says she can look back to her younger days before Chester was born and recall times when she gave way to paroxysms of grief and hate which she believes left its imprint upon his first born.

Would Have Him Die Honestly.

In speaking of these times, Mrs. Gillette said: "I would rather see my son die by law than live out his life with a lie on his lips. I blame myself for what Chester is. I had not wanted to speak of this, for you newspaper people have all spoken of me as a pious and self-controlled woman. I am, perhaps, only because I have made myself so."

"I want to tell this for every young mother in this land to read and ponder well, if they love their children as I love, that they may be spared what I am enduring. I want to tell the young women who are going to become mothers to control themselves to guard their thoughts, to keep watch of the impulses of their hearts, for what they are their sons and daughters will be. Things that happened before he was born, are what Chester is paying for now."

Confession Not Corroborated.

Herkimer, N. Y., Dec. 6.—Although the reports that Chester Gillette, in jail here, having confessed to the murder of the girl, continued to be circulated, the fact that he had confessed to his former sweetheart, Grace Brown, confessed to his attorneys that he had murdered the girl, continue to be circulated, none of those in a position to know will discuss them. When former Senator Mills, senior counsel for the defense, was asked point blank to-night if Gillette had told him that he struck the girl with his tennis racket while she was struggling in the water, he declined to reply. District Attorney Ward also refused to discuss the report that the turnkey in the jail heard Gillette make such a statement to his counsel.

Gillette was brought into court to-day, and the formal postponement of the indictment of sentence until Monday was made by Judge Devendorf. The young fellow is in as good health and spirits as at any time since he was first incarcerated here, and he does not seem to be worrying over his ultimate fate. The general belief among the members of the legal profession here is that when the case is appealed to the Court of Appeals, that body will reverse and send the case back for a new trial, not on the evidence, as that will not be taken into consideration, but because of errors made by the trial judge in permitting certain so-called "hearsay" evidence to be introduced.

Error in Admitting Evidence.

It is admitted by sharp lawyers that the district attorney apparently erred in forcing certain scraps of evidence before the jury when they were in dispute. Attorneys for the defense took numerous exceptions during the course of the trial to the admission of such evidence, and they claim that the highest legal tribunal in the State will not sanction the action of the prosecution in introducing the letters of the dead girl.

When the letters were first presented Senator Mills objected to their presentation. It was for this reason they were introduced, for the attorneys for the defense contend that there is not a line in them which shows any motive for murder. Inasmuch as Gillette was on trial for the murder, and not for the betrayal of the girl, the letters promise to figure very materially in the argument before the higher court.

May Get Long Respite.

It is hardly likely that the Court of Appeals will pass upon the case before the March or April term. While murder cases are preferred causes for argument, the enormous bulk of the testimony taken in this case is such that it will be impossible for the appellate lawyers to prepare their briefs short of a couple of months at the outside.

When Gillette was sentenced on Monday he will be taken at once to Auburn prison, where he will remain in the death house pending the decision of the higher court.

It was learned here to-night that Gillette got the hint to peddle the roughest gallery picture of himself, and with the \$40 that was netted he purchased the new suit in which he was clothed when he went on the witness stand a week ago to-day.

RAWLINGS BOYS NOT TO HANG.

Governor Commutes Sentence of Preacher's Sons to Life.

Atlanta, Dec. 6.—Gov. Terrell, acting upon the recommendation of the State board of pardons, has commuted to imprisonment for life the death sentence passed upon Milton and Jesse Rawlings, sons of Rev. J. G. Rawlings, who, with the negro "Al" Moore was hanged in Valdosta on Tuesday for the murder of Willie and Carrie Carter.

The elder Rawlings, on the scaffold, swore that his sons were innocent, but Moore swore that Milton Rawlings fired the fatal shots that killed the Carter children. Leonard Rawlings, a third son, is now serving a life sentence for the crime, and the people of Georgia believe that the execution of the elder Rawlings and the negro and the sentencing to imprisonment for life of the three boys is sufficient expiation.

PURE FOOD SHOW POPULAR.

Management Elated Over the Success of the Exhibition.

Large crowds continue to be the rule in attendance at the Pure Food Show being conducted at Convention Hall by the Retail Grocers' Association, and the outpouring last night was unusually great. The management of the show is elated over the popularity already achieved by the exhibition, and expresses confidence that the work of pure-food education, for which the show is being held, will be greatly advanced.

Booth tenders are kept busy displaying their wares and dishing out samples of candy, mince meat, coffee, bread, salmon, ice cream, and countless other articles of food that the public is urged to "taste to give a practical test. In addition to pure food articles, booths are maintained by dealers in such commodities as carriages, pianos, and correspondence education."

The Proby Carriage Company offers one of its vehicles in a contest which has attracted much attention. Any one can vote, but the candidate must be a member of the Retail Grocers' Association. Regulations governing the contest being conducted by the F. G. Smith Piano Company place no restrictions on eligibility, and the piano may be won by any one.

WILSON MAY SUCCEED ALVEY

Appointment on Assessor's Board Will Come To-morrow.

Place Is One Late Assistant Would Have Had If He Had Lived.

Funeral Is To-day.

A. A. Wilson, a prominent real estate man and formerly United States marshal of the District of Columbia, will be named by the District Commissioners as a member of the permanent board of assistant assessors of the District. His appointment is brought about by the death of T. Frederick Alvey, first assistant assessor, who was to have succeeded to this position on January 1.

Louis Wilson, private secretary to Commissioner West, who was appointed first assistant assessor, the appointment to take effect January 1, will enter upon the duties of his new office on Saturday.

The appointment will not be officially confirmed by the Commissioners until after the funeral of Mr. Alvey, which is to be held at Hagerstown, Md., at 10 o'clock this morning. Commissioner West, it is said, will present the name of A. A. Wilson to the other two Commissioners for approval Saturday.

Mr. Wilson, who was prominently identified with both the Cleveland administration, is conceded to be one of the foremost real estate appraisers in the District. Although a staunch Democrat, the position is one in which politics is not considered.

W. W. Griffin, who has been appointed assessor to succeed H. H. Darnelle, will not decline the appointment, as has been rumored. Commissioner West said yesterday having sent Mr. Griffin to the funeral of Mr. Griffin in at present first assistant assessor and chairman of